

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method for a photosensitive cockpit windshield of the type suitable for use with airplanes, comprising the steps of: (a) providing a photosensitive portion of a windshield which automatically changes from a transparent state to a darker state in response to varying light conditions, said photo-sensitive portion is a lamination of different layers including polarizers and liquid crystal elements; (b) providing a photo-sensitive circuit for controlling said photo-sensitive portion of said windshield; (c) providing a control unit for controlling said photo-sensitive circuit, said control unit have an opacity control for controlling an opacity of said photo-sensitive portion of said windshield and a control for controlling a light sensitivity of said photo-sensitive portion of said windshield; and (c) adjusting the light sensitivity of said photosensitive windshield via said light sensitivity control of said control unit, said photosensitive portion being surrounded by an area of said windshield not being photosensitive.

2. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of controlling said photo-sensitive circuit via said control unit to enable or disable operation of the photosensitive windshield.

3. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 2, further comprising the step of adjusting the opacity of the photosensitive portion of the windshield via said opacity

control of said control unit.

4. (Currently amended) A method for a photosensitive cockpit windshield of the type suitable for use with airplanes, comprising the steps of: (a) providing a photosensitive portion of a windshield which automatically changes from a transparent state to a darker state in response to varying light conditions; (b) providing a photo-sensitive circuit for controlling said photo-sensitive portion of said windshield; (c) providing a control unit for controlling said photo-sensitive circuit, said control unit have an opacity control for controlling an opacity of said photo-sensitive portion of said windshield and a control for controlling a light sensitivity of said photo-sensitive portion of said windshield; (d) adjusting the light sensitivity of said photosensitive windshield via said light sensitivity control of said control unit, said photosensitive portion being surrounded by an area of said windshield not being photosensitive; (e) further comprising the step of controlling said photo-sensitive circuit via said control unit to enable or disable operation of the photosensitive windshield; (f) and ~~The method of Claim 3~~, further comprising the step of adjusting the response rate of the photosensitive portion of the windshield via a response rate control on said control unit.

5-18. (Canceled)

19. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said portion surrounding said photosensitive portion is transparent.

20. (New) A method for a retrofitting a cockpit windshield of an airplane, comprising the steps of: (a) providing a airplane with a windshield that is not photo-sensitive; (b) providing a window with a photosensitive portion which automatically changes from a transparent state to a darker state in response to varying light conditions; (c) providing a photo-sensitive circuit for controlling said photo-sensitive portion; (d) providing a control unit for controlling said photo-sensitive circuit, said control unit have an opacity control for controlling an opacity and a control for controlling a light sensitivity of said photo-sensitive portion; (e) securing said window over an exterior surface of said windshield; and (f) adjusting the light sensitivity of said photosensitive window via said light sensitivity control of said control unit.